

Fulica americana (American Coot)

Priority 3 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: Aves (Birds)

Order: Gruiformes (Cranes And Rails)

Family: Rallidae (Coots, Crakes, Gallinules, Moorhens, And Rails)

General comments:

Exceedingly rare breeder, very few occurrences

Species Conservation Range Maps for American Coot:

Town Map: [Fulica americana_Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Fulica americana_HUC12.pdf](#)

SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

Risk of Extirpation: NA

State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:

Fulica americana is listed as a species of Special Concern in Maine.

Recent Significant Declines: NA

Regional Endemic: NA

High Regional Conservation Priority: NA

High Climate Change Vulnerability: NA

Understudied rare taxa: NA

Historical: NA

Culturally Significant: NA

Habitats Assigned to American Coot:

Formation Name	Freshwater Marsh
Macrogroup Name	Coastal Plain Pond
Habitat System Name:	Northern Atlantic Coastal Plain Pond
Macrogroup Name	Emergent Marsh
Habitat System Name:	Laurentian-Acadian Freshwater Marsh
Macrogroup Name	Modified-Managed Marsh
Habitat System Name:	Modified-Managed Marsh
Macrogroup Name	Wet Meadow-Shrub Marsh
Habitat System Name:	Introduced Wetland and Riparian Vegetation

Stressors Assigned to American Coot:

No Stressors Currently Assigned to American Coot or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to American Coot:

No Species Specific Conservation Actions Currently Assigned to American Coot or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Conservation Actions Associated with the Marsh birds Guild:

Conservation Action	Category:	Biological Priority:	Type:
Implement targeted surveys to better understand the distribution and status of this species and to help direct conservation actions to newly documented populations	Survey and Monitoring	high	new

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Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action	Category: Habitat Management	Biological Priority: high	Type: new
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Work with landowners to maximize hemi-marsh conditions and maintain stable water levels.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Dams and Water Management-Use

Conservation Action	Category: Species Management	Biological Priority: moderate	Type: new
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Work with landowners to develop and post signs or other strategies for discouraging recreational users from disturbing nesting birds.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Recreational Activities

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.